

Message Text

PAGE 01 MEXICO 03125 072237 Z

62

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

SSO-00 NSCE-00 NEA-10 IO-12 SY-10 AID-20 OPR-02 M-03

A-01 CU-04 NIC-01 RSR-01 /148 W
----- 129021

P 072042 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5766

C O N F I D E N T I A L MEXICO 3125

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, APER, MX

SUBJ: LEONHARDY KIDNAPPING: PRELIMINARY EMBASSY ANALYSIS
OF COMMUNIQUE NO. 3

REF: MEXICO 3090

SUMMARY: FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY'S PRELIMINARY COMMENT ON AND ANALYSIS OF COMMUNIQUE NO. 3 (REFTEL) ISSUED BY ARMED REVOLUTIONARY FORCES OF THE PEOPLE (FRAP) IN CONNECTION WITH KIDNAPPING OF CONGEN LEONHARDY. COMMUNIQUE IS LENGTHY, WELL- WRITTEN CATALOG OF GROUP'S COMPLAINTS AGAINST EXISTING POLITICAL SYSTEM AND RATIONALE FOR ARMED ACTION TO COUNTER REGIME. ALTHOUGH REplete WITH MARXIST LEXICON, IT DOES NOT BEAR THE MARKINGS OF A COMMUNIST PARTY DOCUMENT PER SE. END SUMMARY

1. COMMUNIQUE NO. 3 IS OBVIOUSLY MOST IMPORTANT OF THOSE ISSUED BY GROUP FOR PUBLIC CONSUMPTION, REPRESENTING CULMINATION OF FRAP'S PROPAGANDA EFFORT, WHICH THEY MIGHT REGARD AS PERHAPS EVEN MORE IMPORTANT THAN RELEASE OF PRISONERS (WE ARE NOT CERTAIN HOW " ADD- ON" MONETARY RANSOM DEMANDS WILL AFFECT IMPACT OF POLITICAL CONTENT OF COMMUNIQUE NO. 3). DOCUMENT IS LENGTHY BUT WELL-WRITTEN. IT CONTAINS NUMEROUS MARXIST CATCH- PHRASES SUCH AS REFERENCES TO " GOVERNMENT OF EXPLOITERS", " PROLETARIAT CAUSE", " CLASS
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MEXICO 03125 072237 Z

STRUGGLE BETWEEN RICH AND POOR", ETC. NONETHELESS, BOTH FOR REASONS OF STYLE AND CONTENT, WE DO NOT BELIEVE THAT MESSAGE WAS DRAFTED BY COMMUNIST PARTY APPARATUS.

2. JUST AS PRISONERS RELEASED REPRESENT VARIETY OF GUERRILLA ORGANIZATIONS, SO COMMUNIQUE EMBRACES SPECTRUM OF ACTIVITIES CITED AS PROOFS OF REPRESSIVE, REACTIONARY NATURE OF REGIME. SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED ARE ITEMS SUCH AS ASSASSINATION OF RUBEN JARAMILLO, (1972 STUDENT UNREST IN SINALOA, ACTION AGAINST RAILROAD AND SUGAR CANE WORKERS, AS WELL AS BLOODY CLASHES WITH STUDENTS IN 1968 AND 1971. APPEAL IS GENERAL, DIRECTED TO ALL REAL OR ASSUMED DIS-AFFECTED ELEMENTS WITHIN MEXICAN SOCIETY. PERHAPS KEY TO ENTIRE MESSAGE (AND ALSO TO STATUS AND OBJECTIVES OF FRAP) IS STATEMENT THAT " ONLY ONE ROAD IS OPEN TO ACHIEVE OUR LIBERATION; IT IS ROUTE OF ARMED CONFLICT AND CREATION OF ORGANIZATION CAPABLE OF SUSTAINING THIS IN REVOLUTIONARY PRACTICE..." WE CONCLUDE THAT THIS CALL FOR DEVELOPING AN ORGANIZATION IS BOTH AND INDICATION OF FRAGMENTATION AND WEAKNESS OF EXISTANT GROUPS AND OF FRAP'S CLAIM TO ROLE IN " VANGUARD" OF ANY SUCH ORGANIZATION.

3. AMONG MOST GALLING OF POINTS SO FAR AS GOM IS CONCERNED (AND HERE WE AGAIN NOTE THAT DECISION TO ACCEPT PUBLICATION OF COMMUNIQUE MUST HAVE BEEN VERY DIFFICULT ONE FOR ECHEVERRIA ADMINISTRATION) IS FRAP'S DISDAIN OF " MEXICAN REVOLUTION" -- WHICH THEY REFERRED TO AS " ARMED MOVEMENT OF 1910..." WITH SOME JUSTIFICATION, COMMUNIQUE OUTLINES EXISTING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND CONCLUDES THAT MASSES ARE NOT MUCH BETTER OFF THAN THEY WERE PRIOR TO 1910. FRAP CHARACTERIZES HISTORIC MOVE WHICH BROUGHT ABOUT PRESENT SYSTEM AS " RESULTING IN CONSOLIDATION OF POWER OF LARGE LANDHOLDERS, INDUSTRIALISTS, BANKERS AND LARGE MERCHANTS..."

4. NONE OF COMMUNIQUE OR OTHER CONTACTS THUS FAR HAVE IDENTIFIED ANY OF PERSONS INVOLVED IN FRAP. GROUP IDENTIFIES " REVOLUTIONARY GROUPS WHICH OPERATE THROUGHOUT COUNTRY AND PARTY OF THE POOR, DIRECTED BY COMRADE LUCIO CABANAS (ONLY REFERENCE BY NAME TO ANY CURRENT GUERRILLA LEADER) IN GUERRERO MOUNTAINS..." GIVEN THIS RATHER GENERAL CONTEXT, IT WOULD SEEM THAT FRAP IDENTIFIES PHILOSOPHICALLY AND TACTICALLY WITH CABANAS, BUT THAT THEY ARE NOT A FULLY INTEGRATED PART OF THAT ORGANIZATION.

5. ANOTHER ANOMALY IS FACT THAT WHILE ATTACK ENCOMPASSES IN VERY CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MEXICO 03125 072237 Z

SHARP CRITICISM ALMOST EVERY ASPECT OF PRESENT- DAY MEXICAN SYSTEM, NO SPECIFIC MENTION IS MADE EITHER OF RULING PRI OR OF ANY MEMBER OF ECHEVERRIA ADMINISTRATION BY NAME. RATHER THAN INDICATING ANY AFFINITY FOR PRESENT HOLDERS OF POWER, THIS SEEMS CONSCIOUSLY DESIGNED TO UNDERLINE FRAP'S CONTENTION THAT EVILS OF SYSTEM TRANSCEND INDIVIDUALS AND EVEN ORGANIZATIONS. ALL MUST GO; " WE WILL NOT REST UNTIL VICTORY OR DEATH." IN CLASSIC FASHION, FRAP CONCEIVES THAT " WHILE ANTAGONISTIC CONTRADICTIONS EXIST BETWEEN SOCIAL CLASSES... CLASS STRUGGLE WILL EXIST AND WITH IT VIOLENCE OF EXPLOITERS TO MAINTAIN THEIR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC INTERESTS AND VIOLENCE OF EXPLOITED TO LIBERATE THEMSELVES AND CONQUER RIGHT TO ENJOY FRUITS OF THEIR LABOR..." IN THIS VIOLENT STRUGGLE, ALL MEANS -- PEACEFUL, VIOLENT, LEGAL, ILLEGAL -- ARE ADMISSIBLE, SAVE

DOGMATIC OR ABSTRACT METHODS WHICH MUST BE REJECTED.

6. COMMENT: IN COMMUNIQUE, FRAP SETS OUT SUCCINCT LITANY OF EXISTING ILLS AND INJUSTICES. THESE THEMES LIKELY WILL STRIKE A RESONANT CHORD AMONG ECONOMICALLY UNDERPRIVILEGED CLASSES, BUT THAT GROUP ALREADY KNEW AND FELT THESE INEQUITIES. ON OTHER HAND, LANGUAGE IS NOT LIKELY TO WIN RECRUITS AMONG MIDDLE AND UPPER CLASSES, EVEN THOUGH THERE MIGHT EXIST PRIVATE AND GRUDGING ACCEPTANCE OF SOME OF FRAP'S POINTS. (HERE WE NOTE THAT BOTH LENGTH AND STYLE OF DOCUMENT MAKES IT A BIT INCOMPREHENSIBLE TO SEMI- LITERATE MASSES; IT IS AN HISTORIC, RATHER THAN A LIVING, DOCUMENT.) IN SHORT, AUDIENCE WHICH MIGHT POSITIVELY RESPOND TO CALL TO ACTION IS NARROW.

7. AT SAME TIME, COMMUNIQUE DOES MAKE IT EVEN MORE DIFFICULT FOR GOM TO MAINTAIN FICTION OF ABSENCE OF POLITICAL MOTIVATION BEHIND ACTIONS SUCH AS PRESENT KIDNAPPING. UPPING THE ANTE TO INCLUDE A MONETARY RANSOM MIGHT TARNISH FRAP'S POLITICAL IMAGE SOMEWHAT, BUT TO THE MAN- IN- THE- STREET, PROBABLY LONG SKEPTICAL ABOUT GOM'S CONTENTION THAT ONLY ROBBERS AND CATTLE THIEVES INVOLVED, IT WILL BE OBVIOUS THAT HIGHLY ORGANIZED, REASONABLY WELL- INFORMED (E. G. ABOUT IDENTIFICATION OF PRISONERS AND LOCATIONS WHERE THEY ARE BEING HELD) GROUPS DO HAVE CAPABILITY OF WRINGING COSTLY CONCESSIONS FROM GOM.

8. IN SUM, ACTION OF KIDNAPPING AGAIN SHOCKS PUBLIC INTO REALIZATION THAT ALL IS NOT QUIET ON INTERNAL SECURITY SCENE. QUICK AND COMPLETE CAPITULATION TO FRAP'S DEMANDS STANDS TO FOSTER
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 MEXICO 03125 072237 Z

THOUGHTS OF SIMILAR FUTURE ACTION -- A FACTOR WHICH MUST BE APPARENT AND WORRISOME TO GOM AS WELL AS TO OTHERS. FINALLY, GOM'S PUBLIC CREDIBILITY IN DENYING POLITICAL MOTIVATION OF SUCH GROUPS IS CALLED FURTHER INTO QUESTION. WHATEVER THE OUTCOME, GOM HAS BEEN WEAKENED IN ITS PUBLIC STANCE.
DEAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NMAFVVZCZ

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 10 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MEXICO03125
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730560/abqcefyb.tel
Line Count: 148
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: MEXICO 3090
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 JAN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23-Jan-2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <12 FEB 2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 971210
Subject: LEONHARDY KIDNAPPING: PRELIMINARY EMBASSY ANALYSIS OF COMMUNIQUE NO. 3
TAGS: APER, PINS, MX
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005